



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/718,435 )  
Filed: November 20, 2003 )  
For: A COMBINED COATING PROCESS )  
COMPRISING MAGNETIC FIELD- )  
ASSISTED, HIGH-POWER, PULSED )  
CATHODE SPUTTERING AND AN )  
UNBALANCED MAGNETRON )  
Applicants: Arutiun Papken Ehasarian et al. )  
Attorney Ref: 2146/41506/Case 1 )

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 8, 2003.

James R. Foley

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant is not aware of any material prior art but, in an abundance of caution and candor, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date and before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits and constitutes a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the presentation of this information shall not be construed as a representation that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 exists, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.


Two of the cited references are not in English. DE 101 24 749 is relevant in that it discloses a PVD process for coating substrates. The article "Nouvelles tendances en procedes magnetron et arc" is relevant in that it discloses a process using the combination of a cathodic arc discharge and an unbalanced magnetron for the coating of tools and components which are subjected to severe wear.

Should the Examiner believe a fee is required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized and requested to charge the fee to the deposit account of the undersigned firm, Account No. 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 8, 2003

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